

# Advance Notice to Contractors/Subcontractors

## CALTRANS' SSPC QP REQUIREMENT NOTICE

### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS/SUBCONTRACTORS REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTORS TO BE SSPC QP1, QP2 AND QP3 CERTIFIED

Any contractor or subcontractor engaged in:

surface preparation and coating of structural steel,  
hazardous paint removal, collection, or containment or,  
shop painting of structural steel

shall meet the following requirements:

If only surface preparation and coating application are required by the contract, and the total area of steel to be painted is **greater than 3,000 square meters** (32,300 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 1 Certification** will be required. If the total area of steel to be painted is **less than or equal to 3,000 square meters** (32,300 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 1 Certification will not be required**, however, the work must be **performed in accordance with SSPC-QP 1 requirements**. New and existing paint contractors/subcontractors can use the projects in this classification to obtain their SSPC-QP 1 Certification.

If hazardous paint removal is a part of the contract, and the total steel area of paint removal **exceeds 50 square meters** (540 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 2 Certification** will be required. If the total steel area of paint removal is **less than or equal to 50 square meters** (540 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 2 Certification will not be required**, however, the work must be **performed in accordance with SSPC-QP 2 requirements**.

If shop painting of structural steel is a part of the contract, and the total area of steel to be shop painted **exceeds 50 square meters** (540 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 3 Certification** will be required. The AISC's Sophisticated Paint Endorsement (SPE) quality program will be considered equivalent to SSPC-QP3. If the total area of steel to be shop painted is **less than or equal to 50 square meters** (540 square feet), **then SSPC-QP 3 Certification will not be required**, however, the work must be **performed in accordance with SSPC-QP 3 requirements**.

On jobs requiring **Certification(s)**, no Contractor or Subcontractor will be permitted to commence work requiring Certification without having a current SSPC Certification(s) in good standing.

If a Contractor or Subcontractor suffers a loss of Certification during the performance of contract work that requires Certification, the Engineer will permit the completion of the remaining work without certification, if the work remains in compliance with all SSPC Certification requirements.

The QP 1 Certification Program is based on SSPC-QP 1, "Standard Procedure for Evaluating Painting Contractors (Field Application to Complex Industrial Structures)." The QP 2 Certification Program is based on SSPC-QP 2, "Standard Procedure for Evaluating Painting

Contractors (Field Removal of Hazardous Coatings from Complex Structures)." The QP 3 Certification Program is based on SSPC-QP 3, "Standard Procedure for Evaluating Qualifications of Shop Painting Applicators." Additional information about contractor certification can be obtained from SSPC's website at [www.sspc.org](http://www.sspc.org) or contact Susan Prokopchak from SSPC at 412-281-2331, ext. 210.

Questions pertaining to this notice should be directed to John Rogers, CALTRANS, Division Of Maintenance, Structure Maintenance and Investigations. He can be reached at (916) 227-8627, fax (916) 227-8357 or e-mail <[John\\_C\\_Rogers @dot.ca.gov](mailto:John_C_Rogers@dot.ca.gov)>